



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

VICTORIAN OFFICE

Commonwealth Banks Building, Cnr Elizabeth & Flinders Streets, Melbourne. Box 2796Y, G.P.O. Melbourne Vic. 3001. Tel: 630181

CATALOGUE NUMBER 6201.2

THE LABOUR FORCE - VICTORIA

FEBRUARY 1979

STATE

24 APRIL 1979

26 MAY 1982

INQUIRIES

Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made by telephoning Melbourne 63 0181, extension 6494.

MAIN FEATURES

The Victorian labour force was estimated to be 1,754,300 persons in February. This represents an increase of 33,800 since January and is 34,500 higher than the figure for February 1978.

An estimated 109,900 persons were unemployed in Victoria in February, comprising 56,400 males and 53,500 females. Of the total unemployed, 37,300 were aged 15 to 19 years while a further 22,500 were aged 20 to 24 years.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1. This monthly publication, first published for August 1978, contains Victorian labour force estimates derived from the population survey conducted throughout Australia each month by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Before February 1978 the survey was conducted on a quarterly basis in the months of February, May, August, and November each year.

THE POPULATION SURVEY

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 6,500 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covers about one half of one per cent of the Victorian population. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and the 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e., the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e., on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e., on 5 January).

REVISION OF SERIES

3. Since February 1978 survey estimates have been based on population estimates derived from the 1976 Population Census, adjusted for under-enumeration. They were obtained by using a new sample and revised questionnaire. Estimates back to August 1971 have been revised on the new basis and are not comparable with Victorian estimates contained in labour force publications issued by the ABS Canberra Office before February 1978.

SCOPE

4. All persons aged fifteen years and over are included in the survey except the following: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia.

DEFINITIONS

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e., whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the International Labour Organisation.

6. Employed persons comprise all those aged fifteen years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission, or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers, and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e., unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather

TABLE 1. VICTORIA - CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS (a)

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Month	Employed (¹ 000)	Unemployed (¹ 000)	Labour force (¹ 000)	Not in labour force (¹ 000)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (¹ 000)	Unemployment rate (b) (per cent)	Participation rate (c) (per cent)
MALES							
1977 - February	1,043.4	38.1	1,081.5	264.8	1,346.3	3.5	80.3
1978 - February	1,037.9	58.9	1,096.8	270.6	1,367.4	5.4	80.2
October	1,037.2	45.5	1,082.7	297.3	1,380.1	4.2	78.5
November	1,033.5	44.8	1,078.3	303.1	1,381.4	4.2	78.1
December	1,048.3	58.9	1,107.2	277.1	1,384.3	5.3	80.0
1979 - January	1,032.2	55.9	1,088.1	298.0	1,386.1	5.1	78.5
February	1,041.1	56.4	1,097.4	291.0	1,388.4	5.1	79.0
MARRIED FEMALES							
1977 - February	398.6	19.1	417.8	508.7	926.5	4.6	45.1
1978 - February	369.6	23.3	392.9	533.0	922.9	5.9	42.6
October	374.8	19.1	393.9	521.6	915.4	4.8	43.0
November	383.7	16.5	400.3	521.5	921.8	4.1	43.4
December	385.9	14.2	400.2	525.8	926.0	3.6	43.2
1979 - January	366.0	18.0	384.0	540.1	924.1	4.7	41.6
February	382.5	24.1	406.6	517.2	923.8	5.9	44.0
OTHER FEMALES (d)							
1977 - February	200.8	29.2	230.0	236.1	466.1	12.7	49.3
1978 - February	198.5	31.5	230.0	261.9	491.9	13.7	46.8
October	208.0	23.3	231.3	282.1	513.4	10.1	45.1
November	209.7	21.4	231.1	277.5	508.6	9.3	45.4
December	215.5	39.8	255.3	252.4	507.8	15.6	50.3
1979 - January	217.2	31.2	248.4	263.2	511.5	12.5	48.6
February	220.9	29.4	250.3	263.9	514.2	11.7	48.7
ALL FEMALES							
1977 - February	599.5	48.3	647.8	744.8	1,392.6	7.5	46.5
1978 - February	568.1	54.8	622.9	791.9	1,414.8	8.8	44.0
October	582.8	42.4	625.2	803.6	1,428.8	6.8	43.8
November	593.4	38.0	631.4	799.0	1,430.4	6.0	44.1
December	601.5	54.0	655.5	778.3	1,433.8	8.2	45.7
1979 - January	583.2	49.2	632.4	803.2	1,435.6	7.8	44.1
February	603.4	53.5	656.8	781.1	1,438.0	8.1	45.7
PERSONS							
1977 - February	1,642.9	86.4	1,729.3	1,009.6	2,738.9	5.0	63.1
1978 - February	1,606.0	113.7	1,719.8	1,062.5	2,782.2	6.6	61.8
October	1,620.0	87.9	1,707.9	1,100.9	2,808.9	5.1	60.8
November	1,627.0	82.7	1,709.7	1,102.1	2,811.8	4.8	60.8
December	1,649.8	113.0	1,762.7	1,055.3	2,818.1	6.4	62.6
1979 - January	1,615.5	105.1	1,720.5	1,101.2	2,821.7	6.1	61.0
February	1,644.4	109.9	1,754.3	1,072.1	2,826.4	6.3	62.1

(a) For details of changes in the timing of the survey, see paragraph 2. For scope of estimates, see paragraph 4. For definitions, see paragraphs 5 to 10.

(b) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

(c) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.

(d) Never married, widowed, and divorced.

TABLE 2. VICTORIA - CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a) BY AGE, FEBRUARY 1979

Age group (years)	Number ('000)				Participation rate (b) (per cent)			
	Males	Married females	All females	Persons	Males	Married females	All females	Persons
15 - 19	112.0	*	97.7	209.7	64.1	*	58.3	61.1
20 - 24	146.8	49.2	123.7	270.5	90.2	63.4	76.7	83.5
25 - 34	287.7	127.0	163.1	450.8	96.5	49.9	53.9	75.6
35 - 44	219.6	112.1	128.1	347.7	96.1	56.8	57.8	77.2
45 - 54	195.1	80.6	96.7	291.9	92.2	46.2	47.7	70.4
55 - 59	76.4	25.0	30.9	107.3	81.6	32.6	32.8	57.1
60 - 64	42.7	7.0	11.4	54.1	58.7	12.8	14.5	35.8
65 and over	17.1	*	5.3	22.3	11.7	*	2.5	6.3
Total	1,097.4	406.6	656.8	1,754.3	79.0	44.0	45.7	62.1

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. See page 1, paragraph 4.

(b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.

TABLE 3. VICTORIA-ASPECTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT, FEBRUARY 1979

Particulars	Number ('000)			Unemployment rate (a) (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Total unemployed	56.4	53.5	109.9	5.1	8.1	6.3
Melbourne Statistical Division	43.7	39.4	83.2	5.6	8.0	6.5
Rest of Victoria	12.7	14.0	26.7	4.0	8.5	5.6
Married	17.4	24.1	41.5	2.3	5.9	3.6
Not married (b)	39.0	29.4	68.4	11.3	11.7	11.5
Aged 15 - 19 years	18.2	19.1	37.3	16.3	19.5	17.8
" 20 - 24 years	10.9	11.6	22.5	7.4	9.4	8.3
" 25 years and over	27.3	22.8	50.0	3.3	5.2	3.9
Born in Australia	37.3	37.4	74.7	4.9	8.1	6.1
Born outside Australia -	19.1	16.1	35.2	5.7	8.3	6.7
Arrived before 1971	13.9	11.7	25.6	4.9	7.6	5.9
" 1971 to 1979	5.2	*	9.6	9.6	*	10.3
Looking for -						
Full-time work	53.3	35.6	88.9	5.1	7.9	6.0
Part-time work	*	17.9	21.0	*	8.7	8.0
Duration of unemployment -						
Under 2 weeks	6.1	8.5	14.6	..	..	..
2 and under 4 weeks	5.3	7.2	12.5	..	..	..
4 " " 8 "	8.0	8.3	16.3	..	..	..
8 " " 13 "	10.5	8.9	19.4	..	..	..
13 " " 26 "	10.2	7.6	17.8	..	..	..
26 " " 52 "	8.0	6.8	14.9	..	..	..
26 weeks and over	16.4	13.0	29.4	..	..	..
52 " " "	8.3	6.2	14.5	..	..	..

AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (weeks)

All unemployed persons	26.6	18.3	22.5
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(a) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

(b) Never married, widowed, and divorced.